

## Message Text

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ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05

IGA-02 OES-06 STR-04 AGR-05 SSO-00 /047 W

-----260944Z 121601 /13

O 221515Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KIGALI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4787

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DEPT PASS OPIC

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, RW

SUBJECT: TEA PROJECT

REF: KIGALI 442

1. EARLIER THIS WEEK, FONMIN ASKED US TO ISSUE VISAS TO CELESTIN NDAGIJIMANA (DIRECTOR, CAISSE D'EPARGNE DU RWANDA) AND JEAN DAMASCENE MUNYARUKIKO (DIRECTOR, BANQUE RWANDAISE DE DEVELOPPEMENT) FOR TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON TO ATTEND IMF/IBRD BOARD MEETINGS ON TRANSFER OF RESOURCES TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. I ASKED BOTH MEN TO THE RESIDENCE LAST EVENING FOR A BON VOYAGE DRINK (THEY LEAVE HERE MONDAY, APRIL 25, FOR WASHINGTON).

2. ALTHOUGH MUNYARUKIKO CLEARLY PREFERRED TO AVOID SUBJECT OF TEA PROJECT, EVEN IN OUR RELAXED CONVERSATION, I FINALLY STEERED HIM ON TO SUBJECT BY ASKING WHETHER HE EXPECTED TO SEE WERTHEIM WHILE IN THE U.S. HE REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT PLAN TO LOOK HIM UP BUT, WITH A GRIN, ADDED THAT HE WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED TO SEE HIM. I SUGGESTED THAT IT MIGHT IN FACT BE A VERY GOOD IDEA IF HE WERE TO TAKE THE TROUBLE TO SEE BOTH WERTHEIM AND OPIC OFFICERS INTERESTED

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IN PROJECT. MUNYARUKIKO PROTESTED THAT WITH ONLY THREE DAYS TO SPEND IN WASHINGTON HE WOULD NOT HAVE TIME TO DO MUCH ELSE THAN ATTEND HEAVY SCHEDULE OF IMF/IBRD MEETINGS. HOWEVER, HE ADDED THAT BOTH WERTHEIM AND OPIC WOULD HAVE NO TROUBLE LOCATING HIM IN WASHINGTON, EITHER THROUGH AMBASSADOR UBALIJORO OR AT IMF HEADQUARTERS.

3. I PRESSED A BIT FURTHER AND ASKED ABOUT LATEST PROJECT DIFFICULTIES. MUNYARUKIKO INSISTED THERE WERE NONE, "AFTER PRESIDENCY PRESSURED US TO ISSUE AUTHORIZATION TO WERTHEIM" TO CONCLUDE LOAN AGREEMENT. I NOTED THERE WAS STILL QUESTION OF CONTRACTING PERSONNEL TO BE WORKED OUT. HE REPLIED THAT RWANDANS CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT IT WAS TOO SOON TO HIRE FACTORY MANAGER AND WOULD NOT AGREE TO BOYD-MOSS CONTRACT. ASKED ABOUT POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR GATWA, MUNYARUKIKO INSISTED HE KNEW NOTHING OF THE MATTER. I REMARKED THAT I THOUGHT MEETINGS WITH WERTHEIM AND OPIC WOULD BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL IN CLEARING UP SOME OF THESE MISUNDERSTANDINGS.

4. COMMENT: STRONGLY URGE THAT OPIC TAKE TROUBLE TO CONTACT MUNYARUKIKO AND REAFFIRM INTEREST IN SUCCESS OF TEA PROJECT, ASWELL AS ADVISE WERTHEIM OF HIS VISIT. CRIGLER

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009